

REMARKS

This amendment accompanies a Request for Continued Examination ("RCE"). No new matter is believed to be added to the application by this amendment.

Status of the Claims

Claims 1-5, 7-13 and 15-17 are pending in the application. Claims 6 and 14 are cancelled. Claims 1 and 10 have been amended to incorporate the subject matter of cancelled claims 6 and 14, respectfully. Claims 15 and 16 have been amended to be dependent upon claim 10.

Claim Objections

The Examiner objects to claims 6 and 14 (now incorporated into claims 1 and 10) as containing informalities. The Examiner desires clarification of the concept of "main mode."

The present invention pertains to transflective liquid crystal displays that utilize both transmissive and reflective modes. The main mode is the mode (either transmissive or reflective) that is predominately used in a given device. For example, the specification at page 8, lines 1-2 discusses various applications that "uses the reflective mode as a main mode." Alternatively, the

specification at page 8, lines 6-7 discusses "the transmissive mode as the main mode."

Thus, the "main mode" in claims 6 and 14 is clear when read in light of the specification.

Rejection Under 35 USC §103(a) over Kubo and Taiji

The claims remain rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being obvious over Kubo (USP 6,295,109) in view of Taiji (JP 3228027). Applicant maintains traversal.

Distinctions of the invention over Kubo and Taiji have been placed before the Examiner. Neither Kubo nor Taiji disclose or suggest a transflective liquid crystal display wherein "each pixel region is divided into reflective and transmissive portions, and a reflection brightness of the transflective liquid crystal display device is improved due to a first reflected light at the reflector of the reflective portion and a second reflected light at a transflective portion of the transmissive portion." See claims 1 and 10. Neither Kubo nor Taiji additionally disclose or suggest, "a concentration of the reflective material scattered on a surface of the transflective film is adjusted according to a main mode of the transflective liquid crystal display device." See claims 1 and 10 as amended.

Despite the failures of the applied art, the Examiner asserts at page 6, lines 9 and 10 of the April 8, 2003 Office Action: "Taiji disclose (Fig. 3) sees a concentration of the reflective material scattered on surface of the transflective film that is adjustable." Fig. 3 of Taiji, however, merely shows the interaction of transmissive and reflective properties as the concentration of aluminum particles and acrylic resin is changed. Fig. 3 of Taiji, that is, fails to disclose or suggest adjusting the concentration of particles in relationship to whether the main mode is either transmissive or reflective.

At page 6, lines 11-17 of the April 8, 2003 Office Action the Examiner tries to combine teachings from Kubo and Taiji to allege this art suggests "a reflection brightness of the transflective liquid crystal display device is improved due to a first reflected light at the reflector of the reflective portion and a second reflected light at the transflective film of the transmissive portion." However, Kubo discusses that the reflective electrode has a wave-like surface and scatters incident light to an appropriate range of directions (see Kubo at col. 48, lines 12-24). That is, the reflector having a wave-like surface does not improve reflection brightness but improves display quality according to viewing angle. Especially, Kubo prevents mirror reflection by the reflector having a wave-like surface.

Further, the Examiner is merely picking and choosing various teachings from Kubo and Taiji and combining them by impermissible hindsight reconstruction. Yet further, at page 6, line 17 of the April 8, 2003 Office Action the Examiner refers to "region T" which the Abstract and Figures of Taiji do not disclose.

As has been shown, the combination of Kubo and Taiji is insufficient to allege *prima facie* obviousness for at least three independent and distinct reasons: i) neither Kubo nor Taiji disclose or suggest the adjustability depending upon the main mode, ii) Kubo prevents mirror reflection, and iii) the utilization of impermissible hindsight reconstruction to combine teachings from the two references. Thus, the combination of Kubo and Taiji would fail to motivate the person having ordinary skill in the art to produce the invention as embodied in claims 1 and 10. Claims dependent upon claims 1 and 10 are patentable for at least the above reasons alone. This rejection is accordingly overcome and withdrawal thereof is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Robert E. Goozner, Ph.D. (Reg. No. 42,593) at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an

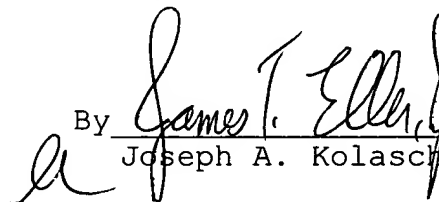
interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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